

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 534
By Napier

A RESOLUTION to recognize Dr. L. Paul Sands, President of
Columbia State Community College.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should recognize those exceptional individuals who, through their knowledge, skill, and desire, make significant contributions to the future of higher education; and

WHEREAS, Dr. L. Paul Sands is one such remarkable person, a voice of integrity in higher education in our great state; and

WHEREAS, serving with distinction, unparalleled devotion, and a genuine concern for others, Dr. Sands has earned the respect and esteem of Columbia State Community College faculty and students as the result of his exemplary leadership efforts as President of that fine institution; and

WHEREAS, born in Montgomery, Alabama, Paul Sands was raised in Mt. Pleasant, Tennessee, where he graduated from Hay Long High School; he received his bachelor's and master's degrees from Middle Tennessee State University and his doctorate from the University of Georgia, Athens; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sands taught in Sewanee, Tennessee, before returning to Mt. Pleasant with his wife and four children in the 1960s; Dr. Sands was one of the first staff members at Columbia State Community College when it opened its doors in 1966; and

WHEREAS, as one of only twenty staff members who have served the school since its inception, Dr. Sands has devoted his life to the college, serving in several important capacities before becoming the school's second president in 1984; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Sands is only the second president of Tennessee's first community college; and

WHEREAS, before becoming president, Dr. Sands served as Dean of the College; he also gave of his time and talents over the years as Dean of Instruction, Mathematics and Science Division Chairman, Education Division Chairman, and Athletic Director; and

WHEREAS, his service to the community colleges of this state extends far beyond the walls of CSCC, as he worked diligently to help found the Tennessee Junior Community College Athletic Association, serving as Founding President; and

WHEREAS, a vital part of his community, Dr. Sands has been an active participant in scouting and is a distinguished recipient of the Silver Beaver Award, the highest honor a Council can bestow upon a volunteer; and

WHEREAS, realizing the importance of Columbia State Community College to Middle Tennessee and to the future of higher education in the entire state, Dr. Sands has given unreservedly of himself as President of the College, and he should be appropriately credited with much of the success of this important institution; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-NINTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby recognize and thank Dr. L. Paul Sands for his unflagging commitment to higher education and his outstanding work as President of Columbia State Community College.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.